In the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) In a communications system having a checkpoint server and a router, said router having a router server, a method for reconstructing separate but interrelated data comprising:

determining whether there has been a new connection having a corresponding base layer established through said router;

if there is a new connection through said router, creating a unique connection identifier for said new connection;

if there is a new connection through said router, creating a unique connection identifier for said new connection;

storing said corresponding base layer with said unique connection identifier
therein within said checkpoint server;

determining whether there has been a change of state for an existing connection running on said router; and

if there has been a change of state for an existing connection running on said router, then checkpointing data corresponding to said existing connection to said checkpoint server with said unique connection identifier embedded therein, wherein checkpointing is a process including critical data regarding

the state of a connection through the router is stored, wherein the connection is re-established using the checkpointed data.

Storing data corresponding with said change of state of said existing connection to said checkpoint server responsive to a determination of said change of state in said existing connection wherein said data includes said unique connection identifier for use in re-establishing said connection.

- 2. (Cancelled)
- 3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising the acts of:

 determining whether there is data available within said checkpoint server for <u>a</u>

firewall application; and

recovering said data by said firewall application from said checkpoint server if there is data available within said checkpoint server for said firewall application.

- 4. (Cancelled)
- (Currently Amended) In a communications system having a checkpoint server, a router, and a firewall application having at least one connection therethrough, a method for uniquely checkpointing data comprising:

creating a unique connection identifier corresponding to each at least one connection through the router;

checkpointing storing data regarding said at least one connection through said router within said checkpoint server; and

encoding said checkpointing data <u>stored</u> within said checkpoint server with said corresponding unique connection identifier.

- 6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5, further comprising the acts of:

 recovering said eheckpointing data from said checkpoint server; and

 reassembling said eheckpointing data for each at least one connection

 according to said unique connection identifier of each at least one

 connection to re-establish said connection.
- 7. (Currently Amended) A communications system apparatus, having a router with connections running therethrough, the router further having a router server therein, said communications system comprising:
 - a firewall application device running within the router, said firewall application device responsive to connections made through said router; and
 - a checkpoint server device running within said router, said checkpoint server device responsive to said firewall application device,
 - said firewall application device configured to create a unique connection identifier in response to a connection connections made through said router, and said firewall application device configured to checkpoint store data

associated with said connections connection with corresponding said unique connection identifier embedded therein to said checkpoint server.

- 8. (Original) The communications system apparatus of claim 7, wherein the firewall application device is further configured to recover said data from said checkpoint server and reassembling said data using said unique connection identifier embedded within said data.
- 9. (Currently Amended) A program storage device, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a machine to perform a method for reconstructing separate but interrelated data, said method comprising:

determining whether there has been a new connection having a corresponding base layer established through said router;

if there is a new connection through said router, creating a unique connection identifier for said new connection;

storing said corresponding base layer with said unique connection identifier therein within said checkpoint server;

determining whether there has been a change of state for an existing connection running on said router; and

if there has been a change of state for an existing connection running on said
router, then checkpointing data corresponding to said existing connection to

said checkpoint server with said unique connection identifier embedded therein, wherein checkpointing is a process including critical data regarding the state of a connection through the router is stored, wherein the connection is re-established using the checkpointed data.

Storing data corresponding with said change of state of said existing

connection to said checkpoint server responsive to a determination of said

change of state in said existing connection wherein said data includes said

unique connection identifier for use in re-establishing said connection.

- 10. (Cancelled)
- 11. (Currently Amended) The program storage device of claim 9, further comprising the acts of:

determining whether there is data available within said checkpoint server for said a firewall application; and

recovering said data by said firewall application from said checkpoint server if there is data available within said checkpoint server for said firewall application.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) A program storage device, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a machine to perform a method for uniquely checkpointing data, said method comprising:

creating a unique connection identifier corresponding to each at least one connection through the router;

checkpointing storing data regarding each of said at least one connection through said router within said checkpoint server; and

encoding said checkpointing data <u>of each said at least one connection</u> within said checkpoint server with said corresponding unique connection identifier <u>of each said least one connection</u>.

14. (Currently Amended) The program storage device of claim 13, further comprising the acts of:

recovering said eheckpointing data for each said at least one connection; and reassembling said eheckpointing data for each at least one connection according to said unique connection identifier of each at least one connection.